(c) Oil Marketing Companies have not come across any instance of deliberate delay in LPG refill supply to the customers in Trichur.

Availability of LPG connections in Barak valley in Assam

1646. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in most States in the country, the L.P.G. connections are readily available on demand except in Barak valley of Assam where there is a long wait-list of L.P.G. connections and the people have to wait for years together for release of L.P.G. connections;

(b) if so, the steps Govemment propose to take to make L.P.G. available easily to the people of Barak valley in Assam; and

(c) by when the situation is likely to be eased in Barak valley in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) Govemment had given direction to Oil Marketing Companies to clear the entire wait-list in North-Eastern States including Barak valley of Assam. However, due to logistics problem and very high demand for new comiections some wait list has generated over last ' few months. Efforts are on to liquidate the same as early as possible.

Shortage in supply of LPG in Kerala

1647. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any shortage of supply of LPG is prevailing in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in supplying the LPG to the consumers in Kerala by the LPG agencies; and

(d) whether Government will take steps to avoid the delay in LPG distribution in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) Backlog of LPG has been reported in the State of Kerala recently due to temporary bulk LPG constraints.